

SAPG-10743 ✓

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29 November 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Project RI Section

THROUGH : Project Director of Administration

SUBJECT : Handling of Traffic Relating to HTAUTOMAT

25X1A REFERENCES : (A) [REDACTED] 6296 (OUT 58100), dtd 23 Nov 56
(B) [REDACTED] 6433 (OUT 58333), dtd 29 Nov 56

1. In reference A (copy of which is attached hereto) instructions were dispatched to the field to limit the use of the [REDACTED] indicator except on traffic dealing with substantive intelligence and technical processing matters. The effect will be to leave in the ordinary Project channel traffic relating to the movement of film, personnel assigned to HTA-2 and HTA-3, logistical and administrative matters having to do with HTA-2 and HTA-3, and much other traffic of interest to HTA-1 in Washington.

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25X1A 2. The reason for this change in the handling of our cable traffic was that [REDACTED] messages are not reproduced in the usual cable form in Project Headquarters but are instead sent on the broad tapes directly over to HTAUTOMAT (with a copy to the Project Director's office). As a consequence, many messages of which information copies should have gone to components in Project Headquarters were never distributed to them. A further consequence of the wide use of the [REDACTED] indicator was that action on many supply and logistical matters was automatically assigned to HTA-1 when it should have been assigned to an AQUATONE component because the assignment of action responsibility was automatically controlled by the indicator.

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25X1A 3. The purpose of the revised procedure is to overcome these difficulties without, however, in any way constricting or infringing upon the field of responsibility of the Chief, HTA-1. It should be particularly noted that under the new procedure many messages which will not carry the [REDACTED] indicator will be of such a character that action responsibility should be passed to HTA-1. In such cases, the Registry Section in Project

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Headquarters should pass the action copy, at least one additional copy, and if feasible a total of three copies to HTA-1 with an appropriate internal distribution of the balance. It is believed that Operations and Materiel will be the two Headquarters components most apt to require information copies of such messages but the selection must be made case by case. In addition to traffic lacking the [REDACTED] indicator on which action responsibility is passed to HTA-1, that office should receive information copies of all messages of legitimate interest to them.

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4. The following will serve as partial guidance for the distribution of normal Project traffic which is of interest to HTAUTOMAT:

a. HTAUTOMAT should have action responsibility on messages dealing primarily with:

- (1) HTA personnel and the movement of such personnel;
- (2) Intelligence requirements;
- (3) Processing techniques.

b. Messages dealing with the transportation and distribution of film and electronic tapes should be assigned for action to Operations, since they have the primary responsibility, but information copies should in all cases be provided HTAUTOMAT and coordination with HTAUTOMAT will frequently be required in replying to such traffic.

c. Action copies of messages dealing with the procurement and more especially with the movement of consumable supplies and equipment should normally go to Materiel, since procurement will frequently and movement will always be a Project responsibility. On the other hand, messages concerning the suitability or performance of particular items should usually be sent to HTAUTOMAT for action. HTAUTOMAT should receive at least information copies of all traffic in this area.

d. Generally speaking, action copies of messages dealing with important questions of concept, organization, and relations with Air Force components should be sent to the Project Director.

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5. It is emphasized that the above instructions apply in messages which do not carry the [REDACTED] slug. The more limited category which will still carry this indicator will be distributed to HTAUTOMAT as in the past and action responsibility for such messages will automatically rest with HTAUTOMAT. If feasible, however, Operations should receive copies of such traffic.

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RICHARD M. BISSELL, JR.
Project Director

Attachment:
As stated

RMB:gjg (29 Nov 56)

Distribution:

- Copy 1-Chief, Proj RI Section**
- 2-Proj Dir of Admin**
- 3-Dop Proj Dir**
- 4-Proj Dir of Ops**
- 5-Proj Dir of Materiel**
- 6-Proj Contracting Offr**
- 7-Chief, HTA-1**
- 8-Proj Commo Offr & Signal Center**
- ✓ 9-Proj Dir Chrono**
- 10-Project Chrono (route thru Proj Sec Offr)**